OIPE JC76
SEP 11 2002
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Shoji YASUDA
Serial No. 09/617,433 Group Art Unit: 1752
Filed: July 14, 2000 Examiner: Thorl Chea
For: THERMALLY PROCESSED IMAGE FORMING MATERIAL

RECEIVED
SEP 13 2002
TC 1700

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I, Shoji YASUDA, a Japanese citizen, working at No.210, Nakanuma Minami-ashigara-shi, Kanagawa 250-0123 Japan, hereby declare and state that I received a Master's Degree from Chiba University, the department of Engineering, in March of 1988, and I was employed by Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd. in April of 1988, and since that time I have been principally engaged in research and development of photosensitive materials for printing at Ashigara Laboratories of the company.

I declare further that I have read all of the documents contained in the file wrapper of the above-entitled application.

I declare further that the test described below was conducted at my direction and under my supervision and the test results are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Method:

Organic silver salt dispersion A was prepared in the manner set

forth in page 20, lines 40-55 of EP 0 887 701 A. Organic silver salt dispersion A' was also prepared in the same manner except that addition of the silver nitrate aqueous solution and the subsequent agitation were conducted in a closed mixing means.

Photothermographic materials (Sample Nos.18-23) were prepared in the manner set forth in Example 1 of the present specification provided that the organic acid silver salt dispersions and nucleation aids shown in the table below were used.

Dmax and Dmin were measured and surface quality was evaluated in the manner set forth in Example 1 of the present specification.

Results:

Results are shown in the following table. The table also contains the data of Sample Nos.1-17 which is the same as that in Table 2 of the present specification.

Sample No.	Organic acid silver salt dispersion	Nuclea-tion aid	Photographic property		Surface quality	Remarks
			Dmin	Dmax		
1	A	—	0.20	2.13	D	Comparative
2	A	A	0.22	3.59	D	Comparative
3	A	62	0.18	4.52	D	Comparative
4	B	—	0.14	2.15	B	Invention
5	B	A	0.14	3.61	B	Invention
6	B	62	0.13	4.62	B	Invention
7	C	62	0.13	4.66	A	Invention
8	D	—	0.14	2.13	A	Invention
9	D	A	0.14	3.88	A	Invention
10	D	62	0.11	4.68	A	Invention
11	E	—	0.14	2.09	A	Invention
12	E	A	0.15	3.56	A	Invention
13	E	62	0.10	4.63	A	Invention
14	F	62	0.13	4.60	A	Invention
15	G	—	0.14	2.10	A	Invention
16	G	A	0.14	3.39	A	Invention
17	G	62	0.10	4.58	A	Invention
18	Dispersion A	—	0.21	2.06	D	EP887701A
19	Dispersion A	A	0.21	3.48	D	EP887701A
20	Dispersion A	62	0.19	4.46	D	EP887701A
21	Dispersion A'	—	0.16	2.10	B	Invention
22	Dispersion A'	A	0.17	3.61	B	Invention
23	Dispersion A'	62	0.15	4.55	B	Invention

I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application of any patent issuing thereon.

Dated this 28 th day of August, 2002.

Shoji Yasuda

Shoji YASUDA